

AGENDA # 1

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: LANDMARKS COMMISSION

PRESENTED: October 14, 2013

TITLE: 716, 790 & 800 Langdon Street –
Memorial Union – Phase II/Alumni
Park. 8th Ald. Dist. (31851)

REFERRED:

REREFERRED:

REPORTED BACK:

AUTHOR: Amy Scanlon, Secretary

ADOPTED:

POF:

DATED: October 14, 2013

ID NUMBER:

Members present were: Stuart Levitan, Chair; Marsha Rummel, David McLean, Jason Fowler, Michael Rosenblum, Christina Slattery and Erica Fox Gehrig.

SUMMARY:

Registered in support were Nathan Novak, representing the Memorial Union; Julie Grove and Gary Brown, both representing the UW-Madison.

The area in question is the aesthetic of the zone immediately between the red gym and the east side of the loading façade. Character and development of the east supporting wall for the ramp, also the railing. A planter has been introduced where vines will grown on the low wall. On the north side there is a larger grade change where a planter will be added to help green up that façade. The wall will be concrete but it is their intent to screen it with vegetation. They have met with the State Historical Society, who do not wish them to use red brick on the retaining walls. The Historical Society also shared staff's concerns that the landscaping was not creating enough of a space for gathering. The lower level is where the existing grade is today. The park is getting pulled up because of the need for vertical clearance for the underground loading parking, and to try to align them with the finished floor elevations of the Memorial Union. It also provides the opportunity, when you're standing at the park level, you are at grade with the finished floor of the Union for direct access in and out of that east side of the building.

Rummel noted that the rear area seems like a missed opportunity and suggested trying stone or a seating area instead of what looks like concrete.

Brown remarked that the UW is committed to better landscaping in the space; something new and of this time, not something created as a false history to match the red gym.

ACTION:

A motion was made by McLean, seconded by Rosenblum, the Landmarks Commission **GRANTED** the Certificate of Appropriateness with staff comments noting that staff shall work with the applicants on final landscape design and if necessary come back to the Landmarks Commission for additional review and approval. The motion passed by voice vote/other.